



The GArzette

The Official Newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society
December 2016 <http://www.gars.org/> Volume 25, Issue 12



2016 GARS Ham of the Year



Ralph Pickwick, KJ4CNC

Message from the President

With this note we are wrapping up a fantastic 2016 and headed for a brand new year of activities. Our Holiday party was a great success with much comradery, good food, and entertainment. Congratulations to Ralph, KJ4CNC for being awarded the GARS 2016 Ham of the Year award. Ralph wears many hats for our organization and is always willing, ready, and able to support our organization. Thank you Ralph and I'm looking forward to many more years of working with you.



“GARS members do a great job of promoting the Amateur Radio hobby. Thank you all for this effort.”

Looking back over my notes for 2016 it is hard to believe all the activities we have been involved in. Each year gets kicked off by TechFest at the Gwinnett Medical Resource Center in Lawrenceville. This premier GARS event is always informative and the Chili cook-off makes for good warming eats in the cold of January. Thanks to all of our sister clubs and organizations in the area who participate.

Nominations were taken for club officers in January with elections in our February meeting. It has been an honor to serve as president for a 3rd year and to have worked with the many talented officers, committee chairmen, and club members for yet another year. GARS participated in the Atlanta Science Expo again this year along with several other radio clubs. This event helps educate the general public about Amateur Radio and promotes the hobby. Thanks to Norm, WA4ZXV for representing GARS and coordinating this event.

Also thanks to the members who helped organize and teach the Ham Cram sessions throughout the year and thanks to the CVEs and VEs

who assisted in testing. I could go on and on about this effort but suffice it to say, GARS members do a great job of promoting the Amateur Radio hobby. Thank you all for this effort.

I could also go on and on about all of GARS activities throughout the year. Georgia QSO Party, May Madness, National Parks on the Air activations, Satellites in the Park, Memorial Day Parade, JOTA, Atlanta Ham Fest, and the Stone Mountain Hamfest. And that's not all! The big-

gie: Field Day and the lesser but also important Winter Field Day. GARS is a great organization to belong to.

I also want to put out a special thanks to all the presenters that make our meetings informative and entertaining. It takes a lot of work and getting over stage freight to put on a presentation and they are all much appreciated.

I know I've missed some things and there is not enough paper here to list all the individuals who have worked to make this another great year for GARS. My special thanks goes out to all of you who support GARS and help making being the president of this club an easy job!

Happy New Year - Thanks and 73,

Rick Cobb, N4XYX

"It is not the class of license the Amateur holds, but the class of the Amateur that holds the license."

[Author Unknown]

GARS December Meeting

GARS 2016 Holiday Party

Friday, December 2, 2016

Doors open: 6:30 pm Dinner: 7:00 pm

**Sports Aviation Complex—Hangar 1
690 Airport Road
Lawrenceville, GA 30045**

[Directions](#)



INSIDE

Member QRZ Pages Pg 4
News For Hams of All Ages .. Pg 5
GARS Holiday Party..... Pg 6
GARS Happenings..... Pg 7
Beginner's Corner..... Pg 8

GARS Communications

2 Meter Repeater
147.075(+) MHz
82.5 PL Tone

APRS
144.390 -- 1200 Baud
W4GR

D-Star
WD4STR
145.060 + (1.4 MHz)
440.550 + (5 MHz)

2 Meter Repeater
147.255(+) MHz
107.2 PL Tone

6 Meter Repeater
53.110 (-1 MHz)
No PL tone

70 Cm Repeaters
444.525(+) MHz
82.5 PL Tone
442.100(+)
100 PL Tone

**Don't forget
to support our
advertisers at the
back of the
GARzette.**

The *GARzette* is the official monthly newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society, serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the Amateur Radio art.

Original articles, art, and photos are invited and encouraged. Previously copyrighted submissions cannot be accepted for reprinting unless permission from the appropriate publisher is provided in writing along with the information being submitted. If reprints are from publications allowing their unrestricted use, please include a copy of the printed permission contained in the publication.

If possible, bring your articles to the monthly meeting in Microsoft Word or rich text (.rtf) or text or HTML format or by e-mail to editor@gars.org. Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via e-mail to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary.

In keeping with the Amateur Radio spirit, permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of The *GARzette* articles by other Amateur Radio club newsletters provided that proper credit is given to the individual author and *The GARzette*.

The *GARzette* is published each month with the assistance of Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV who prints copies for distribution at meetings, etc. and Dave Bruse, W4DTR, who distributes the news letter electronically.

Deadline for submissions is the 28th of each month for inclusion in the following month's issue.

For additional information view our Website at: <http://www.gars.org>

Newsletter Editor: editor@gars.org
Bill Eggers—WB2RIS 470-238-9603



Member QRZ Pages

For a few months we will be featuring the QRZ page of various members of GARS.

This month we are featuring the QRZ page of :

KM4FMW - Donna McCord

When you click on the link below you will find this picture of her.

<http://qrz.com/lookup/KM4FMW>

Read her notes and get to know her better.
You'll be glad you did.

Here is an excerpt from her page:

I am a retired high school English teacher and a current adjunct academic writing instructor for Mercer University. Other than helping my college students, I spend my time with my husband, our six rescue dogs and family activities. However, a large chunk of time since 2015 now goes to my personal amateur radio contacts and to volunteer activities with our local club, Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society (GARS).



Watch for another featured GARS member QRZ page in next month's GARzette!

News, Press Releases, & General Interest



I am organizing a SOTA workshop/group-activation for **Saturday, January 7, 2017**. If you'd like to participate, please let me know at sota-workshop@k4kpk.com.

We'll activate Brasstown Bald in the morning and Coosa Bald in the afternoon, weather permitting. Both of these are 10-point summits with a 3 point winter bonus. That will get you 2.6% of the way to the coveted Mountain Goat award with a single outing!

We'll be operating FM, SSB, CW and PSK31. Bring your own rig or borrow one from one of the other activators on site.

We'll have a talk for beginners. Join us whether you're a first-timer or an old hand at SOTA. Or, if you'll be in your shack, watch <http://sotawatch.org/spots.php> and give us a call. You can pursue your Shack Sloth trophy as a SOTA chaser from the comfort of home.

SOTA (Summits on the Air) is an awards program which encourages portable operation from the tops of mountains. The official site is at <http://www.sota.org.uk/>. You can read more about SOTA at <http://k4kpk.com/ebook/sota-ascent/landing-page/sota-serial-ebook>.

If you interested in joining us on one or both hills or in chasing, please contact sota-workshop@k4kpk.com for details.

73 DE K4KPK / *Kevin*

News for Hams of All Ages

December Youngsters on the Air Event Set

The annual Youngsters on the Air ([YOTA](#)) [event](#) takes place during the entire month of December, with YOTA stations attempting to contact many other young radio amateurs around the world. The event offers an excellent opportunity for get radio amateurs in their teens and early 20s to get together on the air.

“The idea of this is to show the Amateur Radio hobby to youth and to encourage youngsters to be active within the hobby,” said International Amateur Radio Union Region 1 ([IARU-R1](#)) Youth Working Group Chair Lisa Leenders, PA2LS. “Consider giving a demonstration at a school or local club, gather together with your friends, grab a pizza, and make some QSOs, or enjoy a great pile-up. Let’s show this great hobby to the world!”

This is not a formal contest but a way to get young people on the air with their peers. Numerous participating stations, primarily in Region 1, will be sporting YOTA call sign suffixes.

Source: <http://www.arrrl.org/news/december-youngsters-on-the-air-event-set>



Contribute to ARRL through Your IRA

Time is running short to contribute to ARRL from your Individual Retirement Account (IRA). The federal government has now made permanent the ability for those age 70-1/2 or older to contribute up to \$100,000 per year from an IRA directly to qualifying charities *without* having first to declare the donation as income. This means, for example, that you can donate your annual required minimum distribution ([RMD](#)) to ARRL without increasing your income for tax purposes. Depending on your personal tax situation, donating directly from your IRA to ARRL could have more tax advantages for you than a direct personal donation. Most custodians need a week or two to complete the transaction, so contact your IRA custodian by December 9!

Here’s how it works: Contact the custodian of your IRA plan — the bank, brokerage, mutual fund company, or insurance carrier holding and managing your IRA — and instruct the custodian to make a donation from your IRA directly to ARRL. Provide the plan custodian with ARRL’s federal tax ID number 06-6000004 and legal name and address — American Radio Relay League Inc, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111-1494.

It is important that the check from the custodian is made payable directly to ARRL.

The custodian of your IRA then will send you an IRS Form 1099 showing that you, as the owner of the IRA, did not receive the plan distribution for your personal use. Most fund custodians will ask you to complete a direct donation form and will mail the plan distribution check directly to ARRL.

ARRL appreciates contributions of any size from your IRA.

For more information, [contact](#) the ARRL Development Office, (860) 594-0348. The Development Office is happy to help.

ARRL strongly encourages individuals interested in supporting the League through an IRA distribution to consult with their attorney, tax/financial advisor, or accountant to determine the tax, or other, consequences of making such a gift.

American Radio Relay League Inc. is an IRS-designated 501(c)(3) organization.

Source: <http://www.arrrl.org/news/contribute-to-arrrl-through-your-ira>

GARS Holiday Party



GARS Happenings

News from McConnell Middle School Radio Club (MARC) KD4TGR

Students, teachers, and volunteers have been busy since the beginning of the school year. With a new crop of 6th graders coming into the club we started teaching the Technician Level material – hoping to get a few more kids licensed.



In addition, the kids were able to participate in the ARRL School Roundup. The roundup ran for a week. The kids at McConnell due to scheduling could only participate for 1-1/2 hours. But an active hour and a half it was. Maggie (KM4PTW) broke the ice with a school contact in Canada. I believe this was the first DX contact made by the club. After Maggie's contact, a small pile-up ensued that was handled very well by the relatively new operators. (In photo 1 – Maggie and Matthew work a small pileup under the watchful eyes of control operators Chuck McCord and Dr. James Reeves. In photo 2 – Chuck's 20M antenna setup.) While a few of the students were working the radio, we kept the remainder busy using Snap-Circuits and a Circuit Logic game (photo 3).

Next up was the antenna raising at the school. Many of our activities, up till then, were handled by portable setups. Even though the school had dedicated a small room to the radio club, and equipment had been donated, we didn't have a permanent antenna. After much negotiation with the county school system, uprights were placed and a duct run was installed down to the radio room, over the summer. Thanks to a few extra volunteers from GARS (Norm Schklar WA4ZXV and Mike Weathers ND4V) we were able to get 3 coax cables through the duct run, PL-239's installed, a 40M dipole and a 2M/440 J-pole placed. (Photo 4 shows Norm and Chuck installing the 40M antenna. Photo 5 shows the antenna raising crew at McConnell.)

Much thanks goes out to Jean Delashmit (KM4FVO) and Dr. James Reeves (KF4AQO). I don't believe you'll find two more dedicated teachers to amateur radio in Gwinnett County. Also, to the rest of the staff and administration at McConnell for making us feel like "rock stars" every time we enter the school. Thank-you to Mike Weathers and Norm Schklar for helping us get the antennas up and for consulting on the status/condition of donated equipment.

73, *Chuck McCord* KK4TKJ, *Ralph Pickwick* KJ4CNC

Beginner's Corner

Self-Deploying for Training Purposes

There is one cardinal rule in emergency communications: Never self-deploy in an emergency. There is, however, one reason when it is ok to self-deploy. In fact, every emergency communicator needs to do that often. Deploying one's self to test one's equipment and to test one's ability to set up for emergency communication (commonly called EmComm) is perfectly allowed. It should be done frequently by every EmComm-er.

The author of this article has conducted a rather un-scientific poll to see how many EmComm-ers actually use their equipment. The results may not be scientific, but they are encouraging. One ham I contacted has his go kit in the trunk of his vehicle and remotes it to the front of his vehicle. He uses it several days a week on his way to and from work. He also uses it at many amateur radio events.

Another ham contacted is unable to set up his equipment at his home location, so his go kit is frequently deployed to a park. He has a lightweight radio, a portable antenna, and an excellent battery. Assuredly, he deploys often.

How about you? When was the last time you deployed your equipment? What condition are your antennas in? Do they still work? How about your power supply? Is it ready to go?

There may be some of us who have one radio packed up in a go kit, and use a different radio in the shack. Problems may arise when it comes time to deploy the go kit and the operator has to fumble around to get his or her radio to work. Experience tells us that radios that aren't often used may not work after a while. Parts in the radio may dry out, causing their values to change. This makes the radio not work at optimum performance. Even worse, temperature and humidity may destroy a radio, or at least render it useless. Another problem with a seldom used radio is that the operator may forget some of the finer points in using it. Most hams can figure out how to tune a radio and how to press the push-to-talk button, but modern radios are often packed with features too numerous to mention. Knowing how to use these features may mean the difference in saving a life.

"But wait", you say, "All I have is a handy talkie." Well, you can self-deploy for training with that, too. You might take your handy talkie to the park and operate. If you have an external antenna, like a J-pole or something similar, take it with you and set it up. Practice operating under emergency conditions. Try using the radio with your emergency power supply.

Many of us have more than radio. It would be good to try them all under field conditions. You never know which radio is the most suited to a particular scenario. Try them all at one time or another. The author has several handy talkies and uses them all at different times. That way he can make sure that they all work and he doesn't forget the peculiarities of anyone of them.

Self-deploying for one's own training can be expanded. Why not get a group together and try communicating from various locations with different configurations? You will soon get to know the best way to set up your own EmComm station when an emergency arises.

The Winter Field Day is coming up on January. This may be the perfect day to test out whatever HF equipment you have. Again, this can be an individual or a group effort. Many clubs will set up at a particular location. You could volunteer your equipment and test it out under field conditions.

The point is that it is good to get out of your home location and try communicating from somewhere else. It will definitely prove how well you may do in an emergency, and it could be a lot of fun!

73 de *David Harden*, KJ4CMY

Net Managers Corner

Monday Night 2 Meter “Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net”

GARS NEEDS MEMBERS TO SERVE AS NET CONTROL STATIONS!

GARS is a great Amateur Radio service club and we have the membership and awards to prove it. Our club is a very busy and active club and we use the Monday night net to get the information out to our members. Weekly participation is needed to make our net function well. There is only a small group of very dedicated people that make the net happen each week, and we need more members to volunteer to serve as Net Control Stations (NCS) on a rotating basis.

Out of almost 300 members, there are only fifteen primary people who serve as NCS for the GARS net every Monday night. In no particular order, they are:

| | | |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Norm - WA4ZXV | Kyle - W4KDA | Mitch - N0DIM |
| Ruth - KM4LAO | Hal - W4IGE | Don - KW4AL |
| Ray - N4GYN | Sandy - KJ4DRO | John - WB4QDX |
| Bill - KK4AUA | David - KK4KAF | Kevin - KK4WOG |
| Chuck - KK4TKJ | Mike - KK4KHS | Donna - KM4FMW |

As GARS Net Manager (Chuck KK4TKJ), I really need 26 people to fill NCS positions. I do plan and post the schedule months in advance. Any conditions will be accommodated that you as a rotating NCS need to place on the scheduling of your duties. If your plans change, I can make adjustments for the schedule to work, and I will make those changes happen as soon as I am notified of a problem. As Net Manager, I also send out reminders each week to let the NCS scheduled know he or she is NCS for the next Monday night net. In short, serving as a rotating NCS is a small duty but a great contribution to the club. The “Want, Swap, Sell Information Net” begins promptly at 19:30 every Monday night and runs about 45 minutes. As a scheduled NCS, you will request the assistance of a volunteer alternate NCS each time you have Net Control. Your simple duties will be to tune in to the GARS repeater, read the script, take a few notes and forward the information to me for record keeping.

Please lend a hand and contact me at KK4TKJ@arrl.net. Sign up to help support the effort that makes GARS the great club that it is.

73 and see you on the Nets!

Chuck McCord, KK4TKJ

GARS Net Manager



Don't miss the “KNOW IT ALL” Net Wednesday nights, 8:30-9:30 pm



We have moved to a new format. We begin with current events and announcements. Then we Introduce New Technology. Then we have check-ins and general discussion. Post net is Rag Chew format.

Jeff—AB4HF

Everyone is having great fun on this net! Come join us and become a “KNOW IT ALL”.

TIME: 8:30 every Wednesday evening on the GARS repeater - 2m 147.075 + PL 82.5

GARS Membership Page

New GARS Members in November

John Estes (KM4WBQ)
Cal Ludwick (KM4VDA)
Kurt Phoel (KM4YWS)
Glen Wendt (KM4YOF)

New Members: 4

Total Members as of December 1, 2016
283

**Join us for our weekly
breakfast gathering at
7:30 AM most Saturdays**

at

Golden Corral
2155 Riverside Parkway
Lawrenceville, GA 30043

([Directions](#))

**The following members are
celebrating birthdays
in December:**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!
From All of Us at GARS

David Adcock (KA4KKF)
Richard Atkin (KJ4ZTY)
Steven Back (WB2OGY)
Joseph Biddle (AD4PZ)
Nicholas Doemland (AB4CQ)
Gloria Gancarz (KK4SZD)
Barry Greene (KM4RVY)
John Harmon (N4JCH)
Franklin Haynes (KV4SP)
David Johnston (KM4UVI)
Jerome Lofton (WD4CWG)
Michel Matteau (N0DIM)
Charles McCord (KK4TKJ)
Pamela Meridy (WB1AKQ)
Linda Mison (KD6KJL)
Jack Perry (K6JLP)
Kurt Phoel (KM4YWS)
Ralph Pickwick (KJ4CNC)
Douglas Rink (KK4VBN)
Norman Schklar (WA4ZXV)
Susan Swiderski (AF4FO)
Thomas Whalen (KE4UXW)
Walter Wharton (KM4OND)
Amy Woodrick (KE4IKF)

GARS MEMBERSHIP

Your current GARS membership status is shown in the monthly newsletter e-mail towards the bottom of the message.

To become a GARS member, or to renew your GARS membership, please visit our website—<http://www.gars.org>

To make changes to your GARS membership (moved, new e-mail address, new phone number, etc.), please e-mail the Membership Committee - membership@gars.org

You can **renew or update** your Amateur Radio license information with the FCC at their website for free
<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/index.htm?job=home>

To update your ARRL information, please visit their website - <http://www.arrl.org>

Membership Chair: Karen Albritton, KI4HPP
Committee Members: Dave Bruse, W4DTR, Pam Meridy, WB1AKQ

ARRL CONTESTING INFO

From ARRL Contest Calendar

>>>> NOTE: For more information click the links <<<<

December 2016

- 2-4 [160 Meter](#)
- 10-11 [10 Meter](#)
- 18 [Rookie Roundup-CW](#)

January 2017

- 1 [Straight Key Night](#)
- 7 [Kid's Day](#)
- 7-8 [RTTY Roundup](#)
- 21-23 [January VHF Sweepstakes](#)

February 2017

- 13-17 [School Club Roundup](#)
- 18-19 [International DX - CW](#)

March 2017

- 4-5 [International DX - Phone](#)

April 2017

- 16 [Rookie Roundup - SSB](#)

June 2017

- 10-12 [June VHF QSO Party](#)
- 18 [Kid's Day](#)
- 24-25 [Field Day](#)

July 2017

- 8-9 [IARU HF World Championship](#)

August 2017

- 5-6 [222 MHz and Up Distance Contest](#)
- 19-20 [10 GHz and Up - Round 1](#)
- 20 [Rookie Roundup - RTTY](#)

September 2017

- 9-10 [EME - 2.3 GHz and Up](#)
- 9-11 [September VHF QSO Party](#)
- 16-17 [10 GHz and Up - Round 2](#)

October 2017

- 7-8 [EME - 50 to 1296 MHz](#)
- 16-20 [School Club Roundup](#)

For more information:

<http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>.



HAMFEST CALENDAR

Southeast US

01/14/2017 | [TechFest 2017](#)

Location: Lawrenceville, GA
Type: ARRL Convention
Sponsor: Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society
Website: <http://www.techfest.info>

01/21/2017 | [Georgia ARES convention](#)

Location: Forsyth, GA
Type: ARRL Convention
Sponsor: Georgia ARES
Website: <http://gaares.org>

02/10/2017 | [Southeastern Division Convention \(Orlando Ham-Cation®\)](#)

Location: Orlando, FL
Type: ARRL Convention
Sponsor: Orlando Amateur Radio Club
Website: <http://www.hamcation.com>

02/25/2017 | [Dalton Hamfest](#)

Location: Dalton, GA
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Dalton Amateur Radio Club
Website: w4drc.webstarts.com/hamfestintro.html

03/03/2017 | [Alabama Section Convention](#)

Location: Birmingham, AL
Type: ARRL Convention
Sponsor: Birmingham Amateur Radio Club
Website: <http://www.w4cue.com>

For more information:

<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar>





BSA Venture Crew 73 Wants You!

Venture Crew 73 is for you.

If you are between 14 and 21 years old, enjoy outdoor activities, and have an interest in radio technology

- Venture Crews are part of the Boy Scouts of America.
- *Venture crew 73 is chartered by the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society.*
- Venture crew 73 is coed.
- *Meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month, 7:00 pm, at EAA 690 Hangar at:
Briscoe Field - Sports Aviation Complex
Hangar 1, 690 Airport Road
Lawrenceville, GA 30045*
- Crew 73 is a youth-run organization, which means that our Crew President and other youth plan the Crew's outings and activities each month.

We enjoy:

- ◊ *Camping*
- ◊ *Hiking*
- ◊ *Horseback Riding*
- ◊ *Shooting Sports*

- Crew activities usually mix high adventure and the use of Amateur Radio.
- For more information, attend our next meeting or contact:

Steve Back, WB2OGY

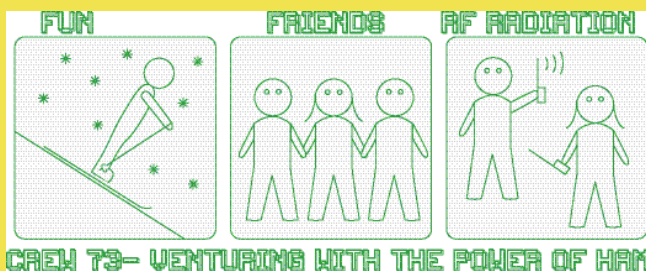
Venture Crew 73 Committee Chairman
Phone: 770-712-9069

E-mail: committeechair@venturecrew73.org



















Kevin McClure, KF4HFN

Venture Crew 73 Advisor
Phone: 706 318 2519




Email: advisor@venturecrew73.org



G A R S Officers and Committee Chairs

| | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Rick Cobb, President | N4XYX |  |
| Mike Weathers, Vice President | ND4V |  |
| Nick Doemland, Secretary | AB4CQ |  |
| Sid Weaver, Treasurer | N4NQ |  |
| Nick Nikley, Program Manager | N0NCQ |  |
| Karen Albritton Membership Chair | KI4HPP |  |
| Dave Bruse, VE Team Leader | W4DTR |  |
| David Adcock, Webmaster, Field Day Chair | KA4KKF |  |
| Dorothy Jubon, Public Information Officer | N2DLJ |  |
| Ralph Pickwick TechFest Chair, Apparel Mgr, Education Chair | KJ4CNC |  |
| Bill Eggers, GARzette Editor | WB2RIS |  |
| Bill Cherepy, W4GR Trustee | WB4WTN |  |
| Eddie Foust, Repeater Chair | WD4JEM |  |
| Mike Weathers, WAS-Checker, Historian | ND4V |  |
| Chuck McCord, Net Manager | KK4TKJ |  |
| Mike Swiderski, Technical Advisor | K4HBI |  |
| Mitch Matteau Winter Field Day | N0DIM |  |
| Pam Meridy QSO Party and VHF Contest Chair | WB1AKQ |  |
| (Vacant) Multimedia Chair | | |

DIRECTORS

| | | |
|----------------|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Kyle Albritton | W4KDA |  |
| David Adcock | KA4KKF |  |
| Norm Schklar | WA4ZXV |  |

EXTRA! EXTRA!

January Meeting Voice of America Prediction Software

By Zygmunt Skrobanski, AF4MP

Repeater Status

147.075 operational in Snellville
147.255 operation in Snellville
444.525 operational in Snellville
Link remote receivers being added
442.100 operational at Goshen Springs
145.590 operational at Bogan Road
6M currently down



L&M Mobility
Robert (Mike) Smith
5191 La Paloma Dr.
Lilburn, GA 30047
Phone (404)-509-3104
Smithrm70@hotmail.com
SERVICE & REPAIR
Power Chairs • Lift Chairs • Scooters

GARS Recurring Calendar

- ◆ Monthly club meeting is the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 pm
- ◆ Every Monday at 7:30 pm: GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net +
8:30 pm: ARES Training on the GARS 147.075 MHz repeater
- ◆ Every Wednesday at 8:30 pm: GARS Know It All Net on the GARS 147.075 MHz repeater
- ◆ Every Saturday at 7:30 am: GARS Weekly Breakfast, Golden Corral Restaurant, Riverside Drive, Lawrenceville
- ◆ Second Sunday at 2:00 pm: GARS Ham Exam Session, Fire Station #24
2735 Mall of Georgia Blvd
Buford, GA 30519

NOVEMBER MEETING MINUTES

Rick, N4XYY, called the meeting to order at 7:02pm

First time visitors were welcomed and roundtable introductions were made.
Ticket upgrades were recognized: Attendance: 71

General Business

Sid, N4NQ, gave the treasure's report. Voting took place and the treasure's report was approved

Karen, KI4HPP, gave the membership report: GARS has 294 members.

NOTE: Rick reminded us that our designation as a "Special Service Club" requires that 50% of membership also be an ARRL member (GARS receives a portion of the sign-up and renewal fee. see Sid, N4NQ for details)

Nick, N0NCQ, Program Manager announced that there will be no program in December.

Future Programs (2017)

January 10th - Zygmunt Skrobanski, AF4MP, "Voice of America Prediction Software"

February 14th—Greg Abernathy, A14UD "Electric Magnetic Pulse" (EMP)

March 14th - Jim Reed, N4BFR "Raspberry Pi in your ham shack"

April 11th - Randall Farmer, N4FET "Battle Bots - Team Bombshell"

Event Recaps & General Updates

Holiday Party - scheduled for Friday, December 2nd, doors open at 6:30pm and dinner will be served at 7:00pm. This year's event will be catered by the 5 Spot Café. Order your tickets soon, sales will end 11/xx/2016

Jamboree –on-the-Air (JOTA) -

- 32 new merit badges were earned
- 100 people in attendance
- Bands were wide open and tons of contacts were made

Stone Mountain Hamfest -

- Great event, turn-out was fantastic and the forums were outstanding;
- Mike will be setting up a Dropbox account for folks to send pictures from the weekend;
- VE Testing - we administered 37 exams Saturday and 25 on Sunday

Net Schedule

- GARS Want, Swap, Sell and Information, Monday's @ 7:30pm
- ARES Training, Monday's @ 8:30pmm
- Know-it-All, hosted by Jeff, AB4HF, Wednesday's @ 8:30pm

Program

Massive Home Brew Show and Tell

We saw some innovative home brew projects this evening, whether it was retrofitting the battery of you and your son's remote control boat, rebuilding an antique teletype or building a transmitter, we saw it all. While we did provide prizes to the top 3 projects, I think all the entrants were winners.

- 1st Place – Paul Kelley, W4KLY (\$25 gift certificate)
- 2nd Place – Bill Hawkins, WR1TR (LED Call sign Badge)
- 3rd Place – Joe Biddle, AD4PZ (Battery Charger)

Upcoming Events *(for additional details go to www.GARS.org)*

- HamJam – 11/19
- Holiday Party—12/2
- Techfest – 1/14
- Winter Field Day – 1/28-29

Meeting concluded around 8:49pm

Nick, AB4CQ, Secretary

EXTRA! EXTRA!

GARS Calendar of Events for 2017

- GARS Breakfast - Every Saturday morning
- GARS Ham Exam Session - 2nd Sunday every month
- TechFest January 14
- Winter Field Day January 30 & 31
- Georgia QSO Party April 8 & 9
- North metro area Fox Hunt April
- May Madness TBA
- Satellites in the Park TBA
- Memorial Day Parade May 29
- ARC/KARC Hamfest 1st Saturday of June
- Field Day June 24 & 25
- W4GR Spcl Event - 40th Anniv. Summer-TBA
- Maker Faire TBA
- Sept VHF/UHF Contest September 9
- Stone Mt. Hamfest TBA
- JOTA - 3rd Weekend of ... October
- HamCram TBA
- Christmas Party TBA

JOTA 2016 Report Shows Participation was Up

The Boy Scouts of America has released the [final report](#) on the 2016 Jamboree on the Air (JOTA), and the news is good. Participation was up from 2015 despite what the report called "terrible propagation."

According to the report, 10,761 Scouts took part, an increase of more than 50% from a year earlier, and the number of stations filing reports, at 267, jumped by 28% from 2015 (the record was 271 in 2013). The number of Amateur Radio operators was up by 14% to 1,120, although the number of radios reported in use dropped by 25% to 631.

Total JOTA 2016 contacts remained flat at 8,254. Over the next several months, the BSA National Radio Scouting Committee will review various suggestions to determine improvements that can be made for JOTA 2017. These included concerns over conflicting on-the-air activities and the need for better advance publicity. — *Thanks to JOTA Coordinator Jim Wilson, K5ND*

Source: <http://www.arrl.org/news/jota-2016-report-shows-participation-was-up>

GARS CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR DECEMBER 2016

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------|-------------------------------------------|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| | | | | 1 | 2 GARS 2016 Christmas Party at EAA Hangar Doors open at 6:30 | 3 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive |
| 4 | 5 7:30 - 8:00 pm GARS 2m Net | 6 | 7 8:30 - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net | 8 | 9 | 10 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive |
| 11 GARS VE Team Testing Session 2:00 to 4:00pm Gwinnett Co. Fire Station #24 | 12 7:30 - 8:00 pm GARS 2m Net | 13 | 14 8:30 - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net | 15 | 16 | 17 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive |
| 18 | 19 7:30 - 8:00 pm GARS 2m Net | 20 | 21 8:30 - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net | 22 | 23 | 24 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive |
| 25 MERRY CHRISTMAS | 26 7:30 - 8:00 pm GARS 2m Net | 27 | 28 8:30 - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net | 29 | 30 | 31 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive |

Metro Testing Sessions

GARS publishes Metro Atlanta VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions. Find additional sessions online at <http://www.arrl-ga.org>.

First Sunday, ODD Months

2 pm (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, & Nov)

VEC: WCARS

Braselton Public Utility Building

4986 Highway 53, Braselton, GA

Roger Gibson, WB4T

(770) 271-4210 or (770) 712-9560

w4rlg@bellsouth.net

First Sunday, EVEN Months

2 pm (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec)

VEC: WCARS

Hall County EOC

470 Crescent Dr. Gainesville, Ga.

Perry Roper, KO4RD

(770) 536-3056

Second Saturday

10:00 AM

Alpharetta North Park, Adult Activities Center

13450 Cogburn Rd, Alpharetta, GA 30004

Ian Kahn, KM4IK

E-mail: km4ik.ian@gmail.com

Second Saturday, ODD Months

VEC: ARRL

8:30 a.m.

GMC Community Ctr

5325 Leon St.

Stone Mountain, GA

Frank Haynes, KV4SP

(678) 467-3712

Second Sunday

VEC: W5YI

2 pm

Fire Station #24

Mall of Georgia Boulevard

Buford, GA 30519

Contact: Dave Bruse, W4DTR

E-mail: exams@gars.org

Third Saturday

VEC: W5YI

2 pm @ Barrow Co. Emerg. Serv. Bldg

66 McElroy Street

Winder, GA 30680

Steve Donellan, N5SMD

(404) 520-0368

E-mail: n5smd@comcast.net

(cont. next column)

Ham Exam Results

November Results

The GARS VE team had a successful exam session on November 13. We had two applicants at our exam, netting 2 new Technicians. The following VE's were present to conduct the testing:

Dave Bruse, W4DTR, CVE
Sid Weaver, N4NQ, Co-CVE
Don Bagley, KK4NJM, Co-CVE
Bill Cherepy, WB4WTN
Frank Haynes, KV4SP
Larry Whited, AB4NX
Karen Whited, AB4NW
Donna McCord, KM4FMW

73,

Chuck McCord, KK4TKJ
(Co-CVE)

GARS VE Team Leader

E-mail: exams@gars.org



Fourth Tuesday

ARRL VEC

7 pm @ United Way Service Center

6279 Fairburn Rd., Douglasville

Jessie Clower, KB4WFK

(770) 942-6466

Fourth Sunday

2:30 pm Georgia Tech

VanLeer Elec. Building

Rm. W218, 777 Atlantic Dr.

For more information go to www.w4aql.com and click on "Test Sessions"

Metro Club Meetings

First Tuesday

Kennehoochee ARC

Downtown Marietta

Fire Station #1, Training Room

112 Haynes Street

Marietta, Georgia 30060

Meeting begins at 7:00pm

Talk In 146.880(-)

First Thursday

Atlanta Radio Club

Georgia Red Cross HQ

1955 Monroe Dr., Atlanta

Meeting is at 7:30pm

Talk In -146.820(-)

N.E. Georgia ARC

Commerce Public Library

1344 South Broad Street, Commerce

Meeting is at 6:30pm

Talk In - 147.225(+), PL 123.0

Second Monday

Georgia Tech ARC

Room W218

Van Leer Electrical Engineering Bldg.

Georgia Tech Campus

Meeting at 7:00pm

Second Thursday

Alford Memorial Radio Club

Annistown Road Baptist Church

Annistown Rd & Spain Rd

Stone Mountain

Dinner at 6:00pm, Meeting at 7:30pm

Talk In - 146.760(-)

Second Saturday

North GA QRP Club

Board Room of The Shepherd Center

2020 Peachtree Rd, NW, Atlanta

at 10:00 AM

Third Tuesday

North Fulton Amateur Radio League

Alpharetta Recreation & Parks Dept

Alpharetta Adult Activity Center

13450 Cogburn Road

Alpharetta, GA 30004

meeting at 7:30pm

Talk In - 145.47(-)

For more information, go to: <http://www.gars.org/>

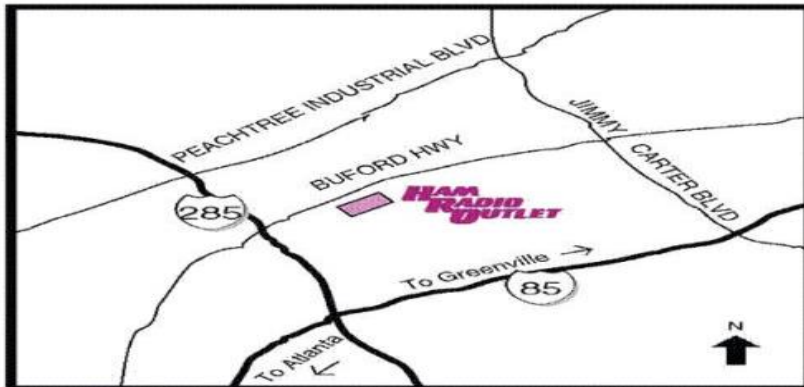
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